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March 15, 2018

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Civil Clerk Essex County Superior Court 145 High Street Newburyport, MA 01950

Re.

John Doherty v. Town of Hamilton Conservation Commission and The Pingree School

Superior Court Case No. 1777-CV-01927

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed for filing in this matter is the Hamilton Conservation Commission's Assented-to Motion To Extend Deadline for Filing Administrative Record and Remove Trial From Schedule.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mubihah Z Rebekah Lacey

Cc:

S. Rikleen

V. Pisegna

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX, ss.

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT CIVIL ACTION NO. 1777-CV-01927

JOHN DOHERTY,

Plaintiff.

v.

TOWN OF HAMILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION and THE PINGREE SCHOOL,

Defendants.

HAMILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S ASSENTED-TO MOTION TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR FILING ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD AND REMOVE TRIAL FROM SCHEDULE

Defendant Town of Hamilton Conservation Commission (the "Commission") hereby moves to: (1) extend the deadline for filing the record of the proceeding before the Commission, as required by Superior Court Standing Order 1-96, to 21 days after the Court rules on the Commission's pending Motion to Dismiss; and (2) remove the jury-waived trial, currently scheduled for April 23, 2018, from the schedule for this action. Both other parties have assented to this Motion. As grounds for this Motion, the Commission states as follows:

The plaintiff filed this action for *certiorari* review and a declaratory judgment on December 26, 2017 and served it on the Commission on December 27, 2017. Pursuant to Superior Court Rule 9A, the Commission filed a Motion to Dismiss the Plaintiff's Complaint on February 23, 2018.

Standing Order 1-96, which applies to *certiorari* actions such as this one, requires the defendant agency to file the record of proceedings, "by way of answer," within 90 days of

service of the complaint. In this action, that date is March 27, 2018. Once the record is filed, Standing Order 1-96 requires that certain motions be filed within specified time frames. Because the record and subsequent motions will be rendered moot if the Court grants the Motion to Dismiss, resources of the parties and the Court will be best conserved if the Court allows the record to be filed after its ruling on the Motion to Dismiss.

Standing Order 1-96 also sets forth the procedure for certiorari actions, which are decided on the basis of the record of the decision being challenged. M.G.L. c.249, §4; Gloucester v. Civil Service Commission, 408 Mass. 292, 296-297 (1990). Under Standing Order 1-96, once the defendant board or agency files the record, the parties file motions for judgment on the pleadings, and the case is decided on the basis of those motions. Holding a trial in this action would be inconsistent with the statute, case law and the Standing Order.

WHEREFORE, the Commission respectfully requests that the Court order that (1) the deadline for filing the record shall be 21 days after the Court issues its written ruling on the pending Motion to Dismiss; (2) the jury-waived trial shall be stricken from the schedule for this action; and (3) once the record is filed, this action shall proceed according to Superior Court Standing Order 1-96.

Respectfully submitted,

Defendant

HAMILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

By its attorneys,

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ASSENTED TO BY:

Defendant

THE PINGREE SCHOOL

By its attorneys,

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Plaintiff

JOHN DOHERTY

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Date: March 15, 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Rebekah Lacey, hereby certify that on the 15th day of March, 2018, I served a copy of this document via first-class mail on counsel of record for all parties in this action.

Rebekah Lacey